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RECEIVED
Peking, Korea
May 11, 1904
Dear Dr. [Name] Wm. Blair
[Name] No doubt you are
hearing alarming accounts of the
recent movements of the Russians
in Northern Korea. I was itinerating
in my northern district at the
time and went to Anju on Wed-
May 11th, the day after the Russian
attack. I will give you briefly
what I learned of the affair.
The Japanese apparently
feeling sure in Korea had
gradually sent nearly all their
soldiers to the Yalu. Monday
morning, May 10th less than
fifty Japanese were at Anju.
Early in the morning of that
day, about 350 Russian cavalry-
men suddenly appeared on the
hills east of the city, after cutting
the telegraph wires they took

position on the hills to the south and east and a rifle battle at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance commenced.

When the Russian first appeared the Koreans within the walls were panic stricken and many fled over the broken walls one fugitive was killed by a Russian ball just outside the south gate. Other Koreans however were stout of heart and assisted the Japanese to blockade the gates, while some who knew how to shoot were given guns and fired upon the Russians from the wall.

It is evident that the Russians did not know the actual number of Japanese defending the city, or they would have stormed the

broken wall and entered with
 out great difficulty. As it
 was the distance round the
 combat for 50 small gaps
 behind a stone wall were much
 harder to hit than 350 big
 Russian on the hill tops. The
 firing was continuous till
 about 1 P.M. when eight
 Japanese infantry arrived
 on the run from Kook Chuen.

The soldiers with in the
 walls came out and gained them
 and with intrepid courage
 the little fellows went
 up the hill with a shout
 against double their numbers.

It seems that the Russian
 did not wait to see how many
 were coming but went off
 post haste along the Koo Chuen
 road. On the Japanese side

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Some seven were killed and about a dozen wounded. One Korean was killed and three wounded. The Russian killed is not definitely known. Eighteen wounded men were carried as far as Kai Chew and few died there. Tho' not a great battle as far as numbers go. never the less I think when this war is over it will stand out as one of the most remarkable instances of Japanese valor.

When I entered the city the next day excitement was still high. No one knew when the Russians would return and all who could were turning their goods into money and fleeing. It was peculiarly gratifying to find our little group of Christians calm and

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unscattered. One dear old
lady lived up on a high exposed
hill side. When the bullets
were raining through the
fruits of a tree up side, tried to
get her to come down to a
more sheltered position. But her
answer was that God knew
that she was there.

What would have
happened had the Russians
captured An Ju is shown by
what did happen at Kai Chuan
where the Russians slept the
night of the battle. This is
a Tong Hak strong hold. When
it was known that the Russians
were coming to Kai Chuan
these fellows boasted that
they did. The Russians were
one and so the Russians would
treat them as friends. So

many foolishly stayed and
 were seized by the Russians and
 forced to carry wounded men
 and baggage. Women everywhere
 were seized ^{and} outraged. Several
 houses were burned and one
 old man perished in the flames.
 All the grain along the way
 was destroyed. All who
 refused to obey the soldiers
 orders were thrust through
 with the sword. And oh
 the shame of it these men
 are white men like ourselves
 and claim to worship our
 God.

The Russians have
 retreated far to the north and
 we do not fear a return as
 the Japanese are on their guard.
 Despite the unsettled condition
 our work is progressing nicely

I have baptized 96 people and received 73 catechumens in my northern work this spring.

I know of not a single case where the trouble has caused a believer to fall away - and on the other hand several have been greatly blessed and many in part years fallen away reclaimed.

Mr Hunt, Mr Bunker and Mr Swallen, Dr Baird and Miss Enock are travelling in the country. Those of us here met yesterday for the business of adjusting the cut.

It was my first experience in a way. Last year the cut was not so heavy and my work not so well defined. I know

you have done all that could be done and will not distress

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by a detailed recital of our
 disappointments. But there
 is one thing that I especially
 deeply regret, that the Board
 could not grant the amount
 asked for in Anju at Anju
 just now it is possible to
 buy what we want at
 about $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ of the price
 six months ago. The railroad
 is going through Anju. It
 will certainly become one of
 the most important stations
 and when peace is declared
 the property which I could
 buy now will cost many
 times its present value. I
 cannot stay in Anju and
 push the work as I want to
 do and as the brethren want
 me to do without some quarters
 and this is unquestionably our

opportunity
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we were all greatly pleased to see that the Board had granted Dr and Mrs Whiting the full salary. Dr Whiting is already doing a large work among the Koreans and there isn't any question as to their success in the work. Dr and Mrs Whiting have been a great spiritual blessing to all of us. Already he is markedly known among the Koreans as a man of God. For the past few months he has been attending the Sunday morning and Wednesday night meetings in the way sang - and I am constantly hearing from the Koreans how they enjoy his lessons and the work there is growing steadily.

We began work on the new south gate church last Monday. We had meeting now with a congregation of about 200 in a building purchased for the tile. Many cannot get inside so we have made cane porches porches under which the people sit on mats. The upper church is filled again each sabbath and we are looking forward to a greater work than ever before.

I will make one more trip to the country but most of my time will be occupied with the new south gate church affairs and building operations.

Mr. Moffett has been sick again but is better. The rest are all well. Mrs. Blair and baby Lois join me in kindest regards.
Sincerely
Wm. Blair